

APPEAL NO. 032343
FILED OCTOBER 27, 2003

This appeal arises pursuant to the Texas Workers' Compensation Act, TEX. LAB. CODE ANN. § 401.001 *et seq.* (1989 Act). A contested case hearing was held on August 13, 2003. The hearing officer determined that (1) the compensable injury of _____, extends to include the low back disc herniation at L4-5; and (2) the respondent (claimant) had disability from May 23, 2002, through the date of the hearing. The appellant (carrier) appeals these determinations, asserting that the claimant failed to meet his burden of proof on these issues. The claimant did not file a response.

DECISION

Affirmed.

The hearing officer did not err in making the complained-of determinations. The determinations involved questions of fact for the hearing officer to resolve. The hearing officer is the sole judge of the weight and credibility of the evidence (Section 410.165(a)) and, as the trier of fact, resolves the conflicts and inconsistencies in the evidence including the medical evidence (Texas Employers Insurance Association v. Campos, 666 S.W.2d 286 (Tex. App.-Houston [14th Dist.] 1984, no writ)). In view of the evidence presented, we cannot conclude that the hearing officer's determinations are so against the great weight and preponderance of the evidence as to be clearly wrong or manifestly unjust. Cain v. Bain, 709 S.W.2d 175, 176 (Tex. 1986).

The decision and order of the hearing officer are affirmed.

The true corporate name of the insurance carrier is **FEDERAL INSURANCE COMPANY** and the name and address of its registered agent for service of process is

**PARKER W. RUSH
1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 4200
DALLAS, TEXAS 75202-2812.**

Edward Vilano
Appeals Judge

CONCUR:

Elaine M. Chaney
Appeals Judge

Margaret L. Turner
Appeals Judge